

HCS HB 1072 -- VOLUNTEER HEALTH SERVICES ACT (Sater)

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: Committee on Health Care Policy

This substitute establishes the Volunteer Health Services Act. In its main provisions, the substitute:

- (1) Allows for no additional license or certificate for a licensed health care practitioner who, without compensation, voluntarily renders health care services if those services are within his or her scope of practice;
- (2) Requires the sponsoring organization to register with the Department of Health and Senior Services and pay a \$50 fee. The registration fee is waived for any organization providing services in cases of natural or manmade disasters;
- (3) Requires the sponsoring organization to file a quarterly report with the department which lists all licensed health care providers who provided voluntary services during the preceding quarter and to maintain records for five years following the date of service which include the date, place, and type of services. The department may revoke the registration of any organization that fails to comply with these requirements;
- (4) Exempts a volunteer health care provider from civil liability for any act or omission resulting in the rendering of the services if the act or omission is not a result of a person's gross negligence or willful misconduct;
- (5) Prohibits a volunteer health care professional from receiving any type of compensation, benefit, or consideration and prohibits him or her from engaging in activities at a clinic or at his or her office unless those activities are authorized by the appropriate authority;
- (6) Specifies that an active duty military medical officer or dentist working at a military hospital or medical facility is to be deemed to be licensed; and
- (7) Exempts specified volunteer crisis response team members from tort liability under certain circumstances.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2013, FY 2014, and FY 2015.